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opolis of St. Demetrius across to the modern ata. Confidence in the chain—some links of :h are still preserved in the Turkish arsenal— ns to have been thoroughly justified. Only once ill the many sieges of Constantinople was it sue-fully pierced, when, in 1203, the Crusading Latins >t in upon the capital of the East, /ithin the area we have described, great if corned with the original Byzantium, but small in tparison with the size to which it grew by the n of Theodosius II., Constantine planned his . Probably no great capital has ever been built rapidly. It was finished, or so nearly finished : it was possible to hold a solemn service of dedi-on, by May, 330—that is to say, within four years, •oughout that period Constantine seems to have no thought for anything else. He urged on the k with an enthusiasm equal to that which Dido manifested in encouraging her Tyrians to raise walls of Carthage,—Instans operi regnisque fu-'s. 'he passion for bricks and mortar consumed him. e Augustus, he thought that a great imperial city Id not be too lavishly adorned as a visible proof present magnificence and a guarantee of future Tianence. Nor was it in Constantinople alone t he built. Throughout his reign new public Idings kept rising in Rome, Jerusalem, Antioch, the cities of Gaul. His impatience manifested If in his letters to his provincial governors. " Send word," he wrote imperiously to one of them, " not " work has been started on your buildings, but